This Issue of the A. F. of L Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accurately and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor according to the industrial, legislative, and political fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The life of an adventurer is the practice of the art of the impossible.—William Bolitho.

WHOLE NO. 1396 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 3

## Dubinsky Condemns C. I. O. For Blocking Peace in Labor Family

**President of Ladies Garment Workers Declares Lewis Wrecked Conference in Washington Between Committees Representing the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization.**

**Thoroughly Punctures C. I. O. Claim of 4,000,000 Members With Statement That the Ten or Twelve Original C. I. O. Affiliates Represent Seventy-five Per Cent of the C. I. O. Membership; Assails Activities of Communists in C. I. O. and Urges an End to Raiding A. F. of L. Unions.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

New York, N. Y.—In a strongly worded statement here, David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the third largest Committee for Industrial Organization affiliate, with a membership exceeding 250,000, attacked the policies of the C. I. O. and demanded resumption of peace negotiations with the American Federation of Labor, which were abruptly ended in Washington by the arrogant demands of John L. Lewis, chairman of the C. I. O., who vetoed the A. F. of L. procedure for peace that had been accepted by the C. I. O. committee in the conference.

Mr. Dubinsky's statement was made at a special meeting of 1200 members of executive boards of the local unions of the Ladies Garment Workers at the Manhattan Opera House, convened to hear his report on the status of the controversy between the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization.

According to the report published in the New York Times, Mr. Dubinsky held the Committee for Industrial Organization responsible for the failure of the peace negotiations in December and disagreed sharply with the position taken by John L. Lewis and other C. I. O. leaders in refusing to submit what Mr. Dubinsky described as the acceptable basis for peace agreed upon when the negotiations were suddenly terminated.

Voicing by the widely published claim of the Committee for Industrial Organization to 4,000,000 members, Mr. Dubinsky declared that careful analysis had disclosed that the ten or twelve original C. I. O. unions represent 75 per cent of the entire membership of the C. I. O.

**Assails Lewis's Dictatorship**

Referring to the dictatorship maintained by Mr. Lewis when he struggled the Washington peace conference by ordering his lieutenants in the conference to repudiate the position they had already taken with regard to the peace plan, Mr. Dubinsky declared that "no one man has a mortgage on the labor movement," adding:

"The labor movement is not the property of any individual or group."

**A. F. of L. Made Vital Concessions**

After an analysis of the situation in the controversy between the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O., Mr. Dubinsky, the Times report said, characterized as unfounded statements that the C. I. O. as to the reasons for the breakdown of the peace negotiations and declared that the C. I. O. bore the responsibility for the breakdown.

The American Federation of Labor, Mr. Dubinsky declared, had made vital concessions on the issue of industrial unionism and the curbing of the power of the executive council to suspend affiliated organizations, the two crucial issues in controversy.

**Denies "Desertion" Charge**

He also denied assertions, made by Mr. Lewis and others, that the A. F. of L. wanted the ten original C. I. O. unions to desert the other C. I. O. affiliates as a condition of peace. On the contrary, Mr. Dubinsky declared, the peace basis agreed upon before the sudden termination of the negotiations provided that all C. I. O. unions have the right to return to the A. F. of L. after existing technical and jurisdictional differences had been adjusted by the executive committees of the respective organizations.

Mr. Dubinsky emphatically declared that he, Mr. Dubinsky said referring to the claim of the C. I. O. that the A. F. of L. had sought to prevent upon the original organizations to desert the C. I. O. affiliates. "The basis of agreement reached was that none of the C. I. O. unions come back until all matters in dispute had been adjusted through subcommittees and that the C. I. O. unions return as a united group."

**Challenges Position of Lewis**

Mr. Dubinsky also took sharp issue with the position of the C. I. O., as expressed by Mr. Lewis that the A. F. of L. admit all C. I. O. unions without any conditions or preliminary understanding.

"Such a peace would be a patchwork peace and would mean continuing the fight in the A. F. of L.," Mr. Dubinsky declared, "this is not the way to unity."

**Peace Held Imperative**

With the statement that the A. F. of L., through its negotiating committee of three, had met substantially the vital demands of the C. I. O., Mr. Dubinsky warned that "the grave crisis of the labor movement, accentuated by the bad business recession and the growth of unemployment," required that the fraternal war in organized labor be speedily ended.

**Confusion Rails on A. F. of L. Unions**

As a first move toward resumption of peace negotiations Mr. Dubinsky urged that the C. I. O. "stop raiding and unfair organizing existing unions of the A. F. of L. and confine itself to organizing the unorganized."

**Urges Resumption of Negotiations**

Stating that the barriers to peace had been substantially removed at the recent peace negotiations," Mr. Dubinsky said: "Our position is that the peace negotiations should be resumed. Let us hope that the failure to attain peace will only be temporary and that, before long, the constructive elements in both camps will resume the task of reuniting the warring factions of labor and make possible the consolidation of forces for a new period of labor growth and advancement."

**Lewis's Dictatorship Exposed**

Testimony as to the existence of a dictatorship in the affairs of the Committee for Industrial Organization was found by Mr. Dubinsky's statement, in the fact that "we have not been consulted and have

(Continued on Page 2)

### COSMETIC WORKERS FORM ORGANIZATION IN MEMPHIS

Memphis, Tenn. (AFLNS).—A new local union of cosmetic workers, employed by Webster, Inc., is one of the highlights of local organization activities here in recent weeks, along with the addition of many hundreds of members by established A. F of L. unions. C. N. F. Roddick, A. F. of L. organizer, reports an increasing activity throughout the local labor movement, with gradual gains all along the line.

## Unions In Atlanta List Large Gains

**Wage Increases and 40-Hour Week Feature Agreements Negotiated With Employers; City and County Employes Organize; Workers Leave C. I. O. and Join A. F. of L.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Atlanta, Ga.—The New Year 1938 got under way with a larger number of local unions and City central bodies affiliated with the Georgia State Federation of Labor, Secretary-treasurer Burton Johnson states. Local unions here are the best in the Federation's history, in membership, financially, and in effectiveness.

Preparations are already under way for the annual convention of the Federation, scheduled for April, when President Harold Chase, is expected to preside over one of the most enthusiastic meetings the Federation has ever held

**Public Employes Win Civil Service**

Only 78 days after city employes of Augusta organized and announced as their first objective a plan to place the service status for city and county employes, Governor Rivers signed a bill passed by the State Legislature bringing civil service to city and county employes of the Georgia city and Richmond County. Signing of the bill was made by this writer, leading officers of labor representatives, including George L. Googe, Southern Representative for the A. F. of L.

Meantime, Fulton County employes are lining up with Local Chapter No. 4 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, fast growing A. F. of L. affiliate.

**Rubber Workers Win Pay Boost**

Gains for workers through new union agreements are being constantly re-

(Continued on Page 2)

## ASSOCIATED PRESS SIGNS TELEGRAPHERS CONTRACT

**Agreement With Big News Agency Covers Traffic Department, Recognizes Union as Sole Bargaining Agency, Establishes Seniority and Provides for Arbitration of Disputes.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

New York, N. Y.—An agreement effective immediately and continuing until March 31, 1939, was signed here by representatives of the Commercial Telegraphers Union of America and the Associated Press.

Today, the agreement, which covers hours and working conditions, the Commercial Telegraphers Union is recognized as the sole bargaining agency for employes in the traffic department engaged in the leased wire, radio and wire photo service.

**Wage Increases Included**

Wage increases were provided in some classes and seniority rights were recognized for all, ability and fitness being equal.

Employes affected by the elimination of positions will be given two weeks' notice and an additional two weeks where they have been in full-time service for one year or more.

It was announced that the wage scales and conditions set forth in the agreement would be applicable to all employes in the traffic department, reported to number 795, regardless of whether they are members of the C. T. U., and that the provisions regulating grievances are established also for that, equal to or exceeding the rates in the agreement would be continued.

**Closed Shop Action Postponed**

A grievance committee was established, and it was agreed that disputes arising under the contract shall be arbitrated.

Although the agreement did not include a provision for the closed or preferential shop, it was provided that that subject will be taken up later.

## Shorter Hours and Wage Protection Urged by Green to Ease Recession

**A. F. of L. President Also Includes Larger Federal Appropriations for Unemployment Relief, Expansion of Public and Private Housing Programs, and Extension of Social Security Benefits in Plans Presented to Senate Unemployment Committee.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

In marked contrast to the welter of visionary and impracticable remedies for the existing business recession presented to the Senate Committee on Relief and Unemployment by government officials, business executives and economists, were the sound and conservative measures urged by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor.

Emphasizing the tremendous increase in unemployment during the last few months which has raised the number of jobless workers to betwe eight and ten millions, Mr. Green declared that "unless effective measures are promptly taken we are faced with a real threat of the current recession developing into another and more serious chronic business depression."

"The critical situation we are now facing presents a real challenge to c Congress, to our Federal Government and to our entire nation," Mr. Green said.

"The time has come when the country must resort without hesitation to legislative means of checking the recession and reestablish the recovery on a sounder and firmer basis.

"In undertaking any such measures, Congress must not lose sight of the great need—the need to look beyond the exigencies of today's emergencies so that we can build for long range economic and industrial stability in the future."

**Presents Seven-Point Program**

After thoroughly analyzing the business recession in all of its phases, with special consideration of the necessity of nation-wide co-operation of all groups to meet the crisis, Mr. Green proposed the following remedies which, he said, must be applied without delay in order to be fully effective":

**"(1) Shortening of the hours of work through maximum hour regulation in industrial employment.**

**"(2) Maintenance of existing wage standards.**

**"(3) Continuation of the public works program on an extended scale and establishment of administration of public works on a permanent basis for the purpose of long range planning to meet future emergencies.**

**"(4) Extension of the public low-rent housing and slum clearance program by additional appropriation of funds and through the suspension of the present requirements for local contributions.**

**"(5) Further stimulation of home construction by private enterprise through remission of local taxes for a limited period of time.**

**"(6) Revision and broadening of the Social Security program to provide for a nation-wide system of unemployment compensation at a national average in the payment of unemployment benefits and old-age benefits to provide for payment of adequate benefits and to put in effect a system of extended benefits for a limited period during the present limit of employment benefit payments and thereby integrate the administration of unemployment compensation and old-age benefits.**

**"(7) Resumption of the work relief program on an extended scale during the present emergency and appropriation of increased appropriation for that purpose."**

**Unemployment Demands Shorter Hours**

In considering the paramount necessity of shortening the hours of work in industry throughout the nation, maximum hour regulation the A. F. of L. President said:

"The unemployment situation pre-

(Continued on Page 2)

## YAWMAN & ERB CO. SIGNS A. F. OF L. AGREEMENT

**Contract With Rochester Office Furniture Firm Provides for Closed Shop, Wage Increase For All Employes and 40-Hour Week.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Rochester, N. Y.—The Yawman & Erb Manufacturing Company, makers of the well-known "Y. & E." steel office furniture and equipment, is now operating under a union contract with Federal Labor Union No. 19130, A. F. of L., and is believed to be the only completely union shop in this line of industry.

The union contract, which extends until June 15, 1938, and continues in force thereafter, subject to the usual 30-day clause, provides wage increases of 5 per cent to all the factory employes, a minimum rate of 50 cents an hour is established, and all male workers not on piece work, except learners, and women who do substantially the same work or duties as men, receive the same wages.

While the 50-cent rate is to be established by contract, Summer Sheldon, recording secretary of the Federal Labor Union No. 19620, states that, at the present time, no male employe is receiving less than 54 cents an hour and the average for the entire plant is 73 cents per cent month was 73.7 cents an hour

The contract recognizes the union as the exclusive representative for all the factory employees for the purpose of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment or other conditions of employment. It also provides for seniority rights and protection against unfair discrimination, while establishing means for handling grievances, without strikes or lockouts.

The 40-hour week is to be worked a day from Mondays to Fridays, inclusive, is established, with time and a half for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays.

## EDITORIALS

### An Interesting Ruling

The U. S. Treasury Department is reported to have issued a ruling that employers may deduct taxes imposed by the Social Security Act in making out their Federal income tax returns, but that employes may not deduct Social Security Act taxes from their income tax returns.

The ruling that employers under the Federal Social Security Act all employers in industries not specially excluded pay into the Federal Treasury one per cent on all wages and salaries up to $3,000 in each year, and deduct from compensation to employees an equal amount which they are supposed to pay for paying into the Federal Treasury.

Now, the Treasury ruling, officials advise, a wage earner or a salary earner may deduct from his Federal income tax return the taxes he pays on his house and other property, but not the one per cent of his wages or salary he pays in as his contribution to old age pension.

Of course, a Treasury ruling is in effect a Federal law—at least until changed by an act of Congress. Nevertheless, wage and salary earners will naturally experience difficulty in understanding the seeming discrimination against them by the Treasury ruling. Although their difficulty will not be wholly liquidated by the Treasury's explanation of reasons for the discrimination, they will be interested, at least, in the official elucidation of the reason for the differentiation.

Treasury officials state that the levy paid by the workers for old age insurance is technically an "income" tax, which, under the law, cannot be deducted in figuring the regular Federal income tax. The officials added that the Federal estate tax for the old age insurance fund is an "excise" tax, and is therefore deductible the same as the Federal tax on automobiles and refrigerators.

This explanation certainly makes the reason for the discrimination as plain as the nose on one's face! The employer pays an old age insurance tax based on the wages he pays his employes; that tax is an "excise" tax, the amount of which he is authorized to deduct from his Federal income tax return. The employe, on the other hand, pays a tax for old age insurance out of his wages; but that tax is an "income" tax, which he is not authorized to deduct from his Federal income tax return. "Excise" tax! "Income" tax! Could anything be plainer?

### The Sales Tax and the Welfare of the Masses

The sales tax has recently reached the limelight in the capital of the Nation by the action of Melvin C. Hazen, president of the District of Columbia Board of Commissioners, in joining forces with the anti-social business groups who want to saddle this monstrosity on the backs of the already overburdened masses.

In testifying before the Fiscal Affairs Subcommittee of the House of Representatives Committee on the District of Columbia, Mr. Hazen declared, with gusto, that 30 per cent of the 4,000 members of the Washington Board of Trade favor a sales tax as a substitute for the so-called business privilege tax, which Washington business men claim they are unable to pass on to the ultimate consumers in the wholesale degree that other taxes on business are finally collected from the masses.

Commissioner Hazen also declared the "Citizens' Advisory Committee on Taxation" had recommended a sales tax.

A survey of the membership of the "Citizens' Committee" would probably reveal that it does not include any representatives of the wage and salary earners, who constitute the overwhelming portion of the adult residents of the District of Columbia. And of course the Board of Trade is not a labor or a consumers organization.

The sales tax is definitely and indisputably an attack on the interests of working men and women wherever and whenever it is advocated or applied.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Morrison Stresses Labor as Consumers

**Wealth Producers Have Not Shared Equitably in Larger Output Under Machine Production, A. F. of L. Secretary-Treasurer Declares; Holds Workers' Buying Power Must Be Protected and Enlarged.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—The unquestioned value of ever-increasing purchasing power to workers and women to maintain business stability and social well-being was stressed here by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, in a radio address as a guest speaker on the "Labor News Review" program, over station WJSV of the Columbia Broadcasting System. Calling upon citizens generally to recognize the simple fact that workers are also consumers, Mr. Morrison closed with this significant invitation:

"Organized labor invites business and industry, and Government alike, to cooperate in a practical manner along economic lines, to the end that our great nation may continue to prosper and that our people may all approach more closely to that prosperity and happiness which is the ultimate goal of human endeavor."

**Opens New Radio Series**

Mr. Morrison opened a new series of guest speakers on the "Labor News Review" radio broadcast, to be given every week, which will include Mrs. Barnett R. Hoffing, vice president of the American Federation of Government Employes; Victor Sand,

(Continued on Page 2)

## A. F. of L. Group Plans Chinese Aid

**Woll Named Chairman of New Committee for Relief of War Victims in China; Many Union Aides are Named to Mobilize Nationwide Appreciation for Endurance of Chinese Population.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—Matthew Woll, third vice-president of the American Federation of Labor's Committee on Chinese Relief, Mr. Woll is the permanent chairman of the committee, which includes many labor union officials in all parts of the country.

Formed under the provisional chairmanship of Edward F. Hyatt, legislative representative of the National Federation of Federal Employes, the committee requested Mr. Woll to accept the chairmanship. Mr. Hyatt is recording secretary of the permanent committee.

**Approved by Green**

In his letter to Mr. Hyatt accepting the chairmanship of the committee, Mr. Woll said:

"I have your letter of January 3, in which you outline to me the work done in the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in China, the purposes of the committee and the desire of the Executive Council that I assume the chairmanship.

"In response to the appeal of yourself and your members, I accept the position of chairman and I shall be most happy to serve in that capacity.

"May I take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation of the work you have done and to pay tribute to the vision of those who so eagerly responded to you for this committee for a purpose which is filled with a lofty humanitarian spirit and the same time with a very practical objective.

"You will be glad to know that I am sure that I am able to undertake the leadership of this movement with the complete support and enthusiasm which I hope will be demonstrated by all who join with us.

"From what it seems to me we shall want to have with us all who share our views as to the composition of the body and it will be my purpose to invite its membership, with the approval of the committee, of course, all who wish to express a like point of view and who agree as to our objectives.

"We must make clear at the outset that one of our tasks will be to see to it that the viewpoint of labor is not misrepresented by groups and persons who have no authority to speak for labor and who have either a deliberate purpose to misrepresent organized labor or an emotional zeal that leads more often to mere meddlesomeness than to sound results.

**Larger Committee Visioned**

"You have formed a provisional organization of representative labor men. Gratitude is due you for this work. I shall want you to remain in an active capacity and, feeling that it will meet with the complete approval of my colleagues, I suggest that you remain as secretary of the committee. You are in Washington, available to the offices which the committee will have and which I hope your assistance will be invaluable. I shall spend as much time as possible in the headquarters of the committee.

"I hope at once to enlarge our membership of the national committee and then to proceed to the forming of committees of local community committees in every city and town in the United States. Then we shall be ready for our work of relief and we shall be ready to inform our fellow Americans as to the true conditions among those who have

(Continued on Page 2)

## Woll Charges C. I. O. Leaders Wrecked Labor Peace Conference

**A. F. of L. Vice-President Denies American Federation of Labor Demanded That 10 Original C. I. O. Unions Desert the Others; Holds Dual Unionism Was Main Issue; Says Settlement of Controversy Was Near When Fear of Losing Control Caused C. I. O. Chiefs to Balk and Terminate the Conference.**

**"The Negotiations Revealed That the C. I. O. is Composed Almost Entirely of Organizations Previously Affiliated With the A. F. of L. and That C. I. O. Unions Not Previously Chartered by the A. F. of L. are Made Up Mainly of Disgruntled and Dissatisfied Elements Previously in the A. F. of L."**

**"The C. I. O. Has Done No Organizing in Any Industry Not Previously Organized by the A. F. of L., and With One Exception, the National Die Casting Union, the C. I. O. Has Not Formed Any New International Unions."**

**"It Is Also a Fact That the Policy Followed By the C. I. O. As to the Formation and Chartering of New Organizations Has Been Based Upon Raiding A. F. of L. Organizations."**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

The direct and well documented charge that the recent peace conference in Washington, D. C., between committees representing the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization ended disgracefully and deliberately ended by the impossible and dictatorial terms laid down by the C. I. O. leaders, and that the executive declarations that the American Federation of Labor bore no responsibility for the breakdown of the negotiations, featured a detailed review of the conference proceedings by Matthew Woll, a member of the A. F. of L. Executive Council and also a member of the A. F. of L. committee of three at the conference, in an interview recently published in the New York Times. He deplored the prospect of a renewal of the bitter conflict between the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O., which seemed inevitable as a result of the collapse of the conference.

**Denies Forced Separate Peace Canard**

Mr. Woll categorically denied published statements by spokesmen of the Committee for Industrial Organization that the breakdown of the conference to the demand of the American Federation of Labor that the original ten unions that formed the C. I. O., and were later suspended from the Federation, return to the A. F. of L. as a condition of peace and "desert the C. I. O. affiliates formed after the establishment of that group.

"We have not sought to force any separate peace with the original C. I. O. unions," said Mr. Woll. "On the contrary, we sought to further a plan which would bring all the C. I. O. unions into the American Federation of Labor at the same time.

"In accordance with the desire expressed by the C. I. O. committee, we sought to bring about a general peace with all C. I. O. unions, based upon victory for neither faction. What we sought was the healing of the labor movement as a whole.

"The abrupt termination of the negotiations after the road for an understanding had been cleared was not our fault."

Mr. Woll declared that "eventually the labor movement will understand what happened and having that understanding will be able to place the responsibility where it belongs."

### ONLY ONE-FIFTH OF STEEL WORKERS ARE PAST FIFTY

**Institute Report Indicates Necessity For Measures Limiting Age Discrimination.**

New York, N. Y. (AFLNS).—Widespread disclosure of denial of employment to older workers has brought a statement from the American Iron and Steel Institute to the effect that almost 40 per cent of workers employed in the steel industry are past 40 years of age. It is contended that almost half of the 40 per cent, or about one fifth of the total employed, is 50 or older.

It is estimated that the average age of all steel workers is now 38 years, representing an advance of two years in the average age of workers in the steel industry since 1930.

Labor officials point out that, while different groups are contending that they "have" a certain percentage of employes over 40 or even 50 years of age, they usually fail to state how long these workers have been employed and do not usually indicate that the bar against original employment of older persons had been let down in any appreciable degree.

### STRONG UNION IS FORMED BY MOBILE HOD CARRIERS

Mobile, Ala. (AFLNS).—Among local unions recently organized here is a new local of the International Union of Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers, Chas. H. Franck, general organizer, assisted locally in the organizing work and new members are still being added.

Officers of the Mobile Central Labor Union and other local unions attended the charter installation.

### FIREMEN AND OILERS LOCAL GETS CHARTER IN RALEIGH

Raleigh, N. C. (AFLNS).—Renewed activity in the Central Labor Union here in promoting the interests of organized labor marked the beginning of a New Year that holds promise of continued labor gains.

Among new locals recently organized here in one of firemen and oilers, chartered by the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, G. J. Kendall, A. F. of L. organizer for the Raleigh district, states many local unions are adding new members.

**Peace Basis Reached by Committees**

Because it is essential for organized labor and the public in general to have a clear conception of the facts if peace in the family of labor is ever to be restored," he continued, "we cannot too often emphasize the fact that a basis for peace had actually been agreed upon between the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. committees, which had begun their conferences more than two months ago, and that the efforts to bring about a settlement at the conferences of December 21.

**Basis of Peace Understanding**

"The basis upon which understanding had been reached was that the ten original C. I. O. unions return to the A. F. of L. under their former status, with no questions asked, and that joint subcommittee be appointed jo iron out jurisdictional disputes between the A. F. of L. and other C. I. O. unions preparatory to their coming into the A. F. of L. The original C. I. O. unions were not to return to the A. F. of L. until all differences had been adjusted with the other C. I. O. affiliates and a general peace agreement achieved.

**"Desertion" Charge Is False**

"Assertions now being made that the A. F. of L. had sought to prevail upon the original C. I. O. unions to 'desert' the other organizations of the C. I. O., thus

(Continued From Page 1)

### Green Becomes Honorary Chairman of Labor's Committee for Relief of Chinese Civilians

### A. F. OF L. COUNCIL MEETS IN MIAMI ON JANUARY 24

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Frank Morrison,' secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, notified the presidents of the affiliated national and international unions that a meeting of the Executive Council of the Federation will convene at Miami, Florida, beginning Monday, January 24, 1938, with headquarters at the Hotel Everglades.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, has accepted the chairmanship to serve as honorary chairman of Labor's Committee for Civilian Relief in China, the formation of which was recently made public. The announcement was made by Matthew Woll, chairman of the committee.

Mr. Green made known his acceptance in a letter addressed to Edward E. Hyatt, who is secretary of the committee. Mr. Green, writing to Mr. Hyatt, said:

"I gladly respond to the request made in your letter dated Jan. 10 to serve as honorary chairman of Labor's Committee for Civilian Relief in China, as you requested.

"The sympathies of the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor go out to the Chinese people who are suffering so severely because of the ruthless war being made upon them by the Japanese. I hope your committee may be able to supply substantial relief to the innocent victims of the cruel war in China."

We are all delighted at Mr. Green's acceptance of the office of honorary chairmanship of the committee," Chairman Woll. "We shall do all in our power to realize the high ambition he has expressed in terms of helpfulness to the stricken Chinese civilian masses."

### WORKERS ORGANIZATION FORGES AHEAD IN MACON

Macon, Ga. (AFLNS).—Many new unionists unions have been organized here in recent weeks, with the assistance of Wm. A. McKenna, general A. F. of L. organizer.

Among new locals recently installed are those of carpenters, lathers, plasterers and bricklayers. A new local of freight handlers is reported making excellent progress. Other locals are in process of formation. In the meantime, increases in pay and improved working conditions are reported by several unions.

# Woll Charges C. I. O. Leaders Wrecked Labor Peace Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

committing treason" against the latter, are directors without heads in fact. These assertions can be characterized only as a senile scheme designed to confuse the public and to befool the situation."

**C. I. O. Committee Was Coerced Into Reversing Position**

Matching point for point the American Federation of Labor "went as far as it possibly could to reunite the forces of labor" by agreeing to the aforementioned procedure, Mr. Woll explained that the negotiations broke down when the C. I. O. committee, "under pressure from outside," suddenly returned to its original proposal, made at the beginning of the negotiations in October, that without any preliminary agreement on conditions, the American Federation of Labor admit into membership all the unions composing the C. I. O., and that the A. F. of L. issue international charters to all such unions in contravention of the fact that unions chartered by the American Federation of Labor were functioning in the fields for which the C. I. O. demanded charters.

**C. I. O., Terms Meant More War**

"Had the American Federation of Labor agreed to the proposals which the C. I. O. had formerly abandoned, we would be committing acts of hostile treason against the unions in the Federation directly concerned and would have carried the principle of the rival organizations into the A. F. of L." Mr. Woll said, "All that would have been accomplished would have been to carry the conflict, in the most destructive way, to the Federation, with every prospect of accentuating and aggravating the disagreements and bitterness engendered over the past two years.

**Jurisdictional Conflicts Would Have Increased**

"This was not the road to peace but to more war.

"Moreover, both employers and the public, who now find themselves caught in the battle between the two labor camps, would have been confronted with jurisdictional conflicts between unions of two or more unit. chartered and recognized by the American Federation of Labor.

**Bogus Peace Not Desired**

"Peace can be attained only by ironing out all such jurisdictional disputes and differences between existing A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unions preliminary to any amalgamation in each of the respective fields.

"What we wanted was a genuine, not a bogus peace to be used merely as a screen for more conflict within the A. F. of L."

**Craft vs. Industrial Unionism Is False Issue**

Despite the failure of the negotiations, however, they served a valuable and constructive purpose, Mr. Woll declared.

"The several meetings of the two committees prior to the breakdown," he helped clear the situation as regards the facts affecting essential issues of the conflict," he went on.

"It was made clear that there is really no issue of craft versus industrial unionism between the A. F. of L. and C. I. O., as some twenty other unions in the past two years, was demonstrated to be fictitious, for there was little difficulty confronting us on questions of jurisdiction involving unions functioning in the mass production industries.

**Dual Unionism Was Real Issue**

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# Morrison Stresses Labor as Consumers

(Continued from Page 1)

field office manager for the Social Security Board; I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor Union Label Trades Department; Frank Weitzel, president of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department; Frank Fenton, director of Union Employes International Council, and numerous others.

**TEXT OF MORRISON'S ADDRESS**

Following is the text of Mr. Morrison's address on the subject "Workers Are Consumers":

"The current recession in business has emphasized the value to this nation of its organized labor movement. Not only are they producers, but they are CONSUMERS. Their ability to BUY the necessities and some of the luxuries of life largely determines our general prosperity.

"Labor-saving machinery and efficiency methods have increased output man-hour production. Labor has not benefited from this improved productivity. It is entirely within the limits of good business' and of sound economics to reduce working hours, so as to spread employment, without reducing normal weekly earnings. Such a change increases, pay scales could be raised, and purchasing power, following this principle, purchasing power would be retained and expanded, immediate recovery and future prosperity more reasonably assured.

**Labor's Social Contribution**

"I am proud of the record we have enabled to witness vast changes, vast improvements and to observe their contribution to the progress of humanity. Our beloved country has assuredly advanced, and in vast advancements labor has been several factors. It is interesting to note, however, that the greatest progress in any like period in all the history of the world, has been made since 1881—which is to say, the organization of the American Federation of Labor.

"That ought to be significant. Naturally, organized labor does not claim credit for general development during this period, but all agree that it has been a mighty factor in our economic and social progress.

"Organized labor seeks lasting prosperity for all and the greatest possible happiness for all.

**Broad Cooperation Urged**

"As a nation, we have grown up now, I trust, to put aside childish fears and childish prejudice. Let us recognize that organized workers are human beings; though capable, duty-bound men and women, who seek prosperity and security for all, and so to us profit by the experience of the past to prepare for the future. Any of our difficulty would be overcome by the recognition of the simple fact that workers are people.

"Organized Labor invites business and industry, and Government also, to co-operate in a practical manner, along sound common lines, to the end that our great nation may continue to progress and that our people may all appreciate the fruits of the democratic and happiness which is the ultimate goal for human endeavor."

**"Labor News Review" Program**

The "Labor News Review" program, on which Mr. Morrison spoke, is produced and broadcast by Albert N. Parry, who is a member of the WJSV staff, the station which furnishes the time and paying for the preparation, production and broadcast of the labor program as a public service. Mr. Parry, who is a labor specialist, has a guest several times before, spoke on the labor question on the 180th consecutive weekly broadcast of the "Labor News Review."

# TEAMSTERS PACT SIGNED BY 180 TRUCKING FIRMS

**Blanket Agreement in Philadelphia Covering 5,000 Drivers Includes Closed Shop, Wage Increases, and Limits Sympathetic Strikes.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Philadelphia, Pa.—What was reported as "the largest single labor agreement in the history of the trucking industry in this city" was finalized here when one hundred and eighty trucking firms signed as a unit into a working contract with their drivers and helpers.

Parties to the agreement were Local 107, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, and Philadelphia Chapter, Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association.

**Old Agreements Replaced**

The blanket agreement, substituted for the old individual contracts with the union which expired last December 31, 1937, was negotiated by Edward F. Crumbock, secretary-treasurer, and William A. Gray, attorney. The truck owners' group was represented by James P. Clark, of the Labor Relations Division, and William A. Schrader, attorney.

# ELECTRICAL WORKERS SHREVEPORT NEW LOCAL IN SHREVEPORT

Shreveport, La. (AFLNB)—R. L. Burton, A. F. of L. organizer, reports the formation of a new local in Caddo parish, Louisiana, with many members having been added to the group. A charter was recently ordered by the local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, which sent out with a very substantial membership.

# WINNFIELD (LA.) SALT MINE WORKERS ORGANIZE

Winnfield, La. (AFLNB)—Salt Mine and Factory Employees' Local Union No. 21413, recently chartered by the

# A. F. of L. Group Plans Chinese Aid

(Continued from Page 1)

been plunged into anguish through no fault of their own.

"We are faced with a situation that cries out to all Americans. I am happy to have the opportunity to express my thank you and the appreciation of the committee for having selected me to be permanent chairman. I shall not detail myself as now having assumed the office and entered upon my new duties in that capacity."

**Appreciation of Chinese Bravery**

In his letter addressed to Mr. Hyatt accept the permanent chairmanship, Mr. Hyatt said the members of the provisional committee were convinced that the formation of a relief organization was the most appropriate way to show our appreciation of the bravery and endurance of the Chinese civilian population."

**National Committee Members**

Among the labor officials and others reported as having accepted membership on the committee are:

James Maloney, president, Glass Bottle Blowers' Association; James Duffy, president, National Brotherhood of Operative Potters; Felix H. Knight, president, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America; Joseph Weber, president, Workers' International Union; Frank Borders, president, Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union; C. L. Rosemund, president, International Union of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions; M. J. Boyle, International Association of Machinists.

G. J. Richardson, secretary-treasurer, International Association of Machinists; Mrs. M. J. Gilooly, president, American Federation of Labor Label Trades Department; Frank Duffy, secretary-treasurer, Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America; Harry M. Burke, president, International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers; Gottfrid F. Lindsten, Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; Patrick E. Gorman, president, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America.

J. W. Buzzell, secretary, Central Labor Council, of Los Angeles, Calif.; Arnold S. Zander, president, City, County and Municipal Employes; C. J. Haggerty, president, California State Federation of Labor; W. W. Britton, president, International Union of Metal Polishers; Charles P. Howard, president, International Typographical Union; Matthew Woll, vice-president, International Brotherhood of Paper Makers; R. E. Van Horn, president, Cigar Makers' International Union; Phil F. Ziegler, secretary, Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerk; Joseph Weber, secretary-treasurer, International Union of United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers' of America.

Ray Wentz, vice-president, Minnesota State Federation of Labor; Thomas A. Burke, secretary-treasurer, United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada; A. R. Hodgson, secretary, Arizona Federation of Labor; Walter Hoyt, secretary-treasurer, Florida Federation of Labor; August Norquist, secretary, Idaho State Federation of Labor; Paul O'Brien, secretary-treasurer, Wyoming Federation of Labor; R. E. Woodman, International Longshoremen's Association; Joe McCormick, editor, Cedar Rapids Tribune, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Matchett, editor, Colorado Labor Advocate, Denver, Colo.; T. W. Salsbury, editor Labor Journal, Tri-City Union, Vancouver, Wash.; Thomas R. Downie, editor, Labor News, Galesburg, Illinois; John J. Myler, editor, Labor Herald, Wilmington, Del.; Rufus Johnson, secretary, Arizona State Federation of Labor; D. W. Harter, editor, United Labor Press, Columbus, Ohio; F. W. Sheridan, editor, Labor Review, Portsmouth, Ohio; O. Haas, secretary, Alabama State Federation of Labor; James F. Sechtel, editor, The Labor Tribune, Duluth, Minn.; Ed. Fisher, secretary-treasurer, North Carolina State Federation of Labor; Edward Burry, N. C.; L. T. Johnson, secretary-treasurer, Oklahoma State Federation of Labor, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Harold G. Cross, secretary-treasurer, Utah State Federation of Labor, Salt Lake City, Utah; James A. Taylor, president, Washington State Federation of Labor; A. J. Mann, president, South Dakota State Federation of Labor; Samuel F. McCarty, secretary, Kansas Federation of Labor; J. M. O'Hanlon, New York Federation of Labor; Peter F. Lockhart, editor, Union Advocate, St. Paul, Minn.; Tom Kelly, Nevada State Federation of Labor, Reno, Nevada; Harvey E. Garman, editor, The Los Angeles Citizen, Los Angeles, Calif.; Al Sennott, editor, Kern County Union Labor Journal, Bakersfield, Calif.; Fremont M. Salius, editor, Labor News, Worcester, Mass.; A. L. Newman, manager, Labor Herald, Richmond, Va.; E. J. Shave, Virginia State Federation of Labor; David Levine, editor, Washington State Labor News, Seattle, Wash.

J. J. Handly, Wisconsin State Federation of Labor; Lester Thomas, secretary, Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; Charles Huffin, editor, Union Herald, Raleigh, N. C.; R. F. Bunnell, editor, Minneapolis Labor Review, Minneapolis, Minn.; Thomas Durkin, secretary-treasurer, United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada; Harry Jackson, Miss.; John J. Durkin, editor, Southwestern Record, Tucson, Arizona; Phillip A. McGorgy, secretary-treasurer, International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers; Paul J. Pfeiffer, secretary, San Diego County Federated Trades and Labor Council, San Diego, Calif.; Fred Umberg, editor, The Labor World, Inc., Duluth, Minn.

James A. Brownlow, secretary, Colorado State Federation of Labor; Frank M. Martel, president, Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, Detroit, Mich.; Arthur O. Wharton, president, International Association of Machinists; F. H. Fljozdal, president, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes; John F. McNamara, president, International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers; John J. Mara, president, Boot and Shoe Workers' Union; Barnet J. Volk, president, International Photo Engravers' Union of North America; John Coefield, presidingg Bishop, United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada; Joseph P. Ryan, president, International Longshoremen's Association.

W. C. Birthright, president, Journeymen Barbers' International Union; W. W. Britton, president, Metal Polishers' International Union; Gilbert R. Hyatt, National Federation of Federal Employees; Victor A. Olander, secretary, Illinois State Federation of Labor; Joseph N. Weber, president, American Federation of Musicians; P. J. Morrin, president, International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.

American Federation of Labor, is numbered among the up and coming new local unions here.

A new local union of quarry workers has also been installed, starting out with a membership of 87, which is gradually increasing.

# Unions in Atlanta List Large Gains

(Continued from Page 1)

ported. Among recent wage victories of the A. F. of L. Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Union, who secured an agreement with the Holsum Bakery Company. The contract not only provides for wage increases, but for a new 40-hour work week, with time and a half for overtime, seniority rights and other advantages.

**Hotel and Restaurant Workers Organize**

Wage earners of Atlanta are leaning the advantage of organization under the A. F. of L. banner, with the result that old unions are gaining membership and new unions are being formed. Among new unions recently chartered is one of Hotel and Restaurant Employees.

**Operating Engineers Increase Membership**

An outstanding example of gains by labor unions is the record of the Atlanta Operating Engineers' Local No. 926 which has doubled its membership since last January, while the local union has enjoyed an increase of 30 per cent in membership.

Engineers gained a 20 per cent wage increase. The agreement was secured with the Berkeley Granite Corporation.

**Wage Boost Won by Dress Workers**

Another striking instance of workers' gains through interest in the A. F. of L. American Federation of Labor was recently reported when the Dress Workers' local, not C. I. O. by choice, but because the international officers swung their organization in the A. F. of L. movement, voted to affiliate with the A. F. of L. This local this week an agreement was secured with the Rita Dress Company, Inc., which entitled them to improvement over conditions prevailing in the dress industry in the C. I. O. The new agreement brought increased wages, the closed shop and numerous other gains for the normally low-paid dress workers.

# McLaughlin Named For McGrady Post

**Roosevelt Appoints Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen's Brotherhood Official to Assistant Secretary of Labor Job.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt appointed Charles V. McLaughlin, of Omaha, Nebraska, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, to be assistant Secretary of Labor, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the late Edward F. McGrady, to accept a position with the Radio Corporation of America.

The President announced that the appointment did not have to be confirmed by the Senate for confirmation.

McLaughlin, 49 years of age. A native of North Platte, Neb., he entered the government service during the Spanish-American War in 1896 as a pack master in charge of a pack train in Puerto Rico.

Returning to the United States in 1898, he became an engineer on the Union Pacific Railroad, working as locomotive fireman and engineer and was actively interested in the affairs of the brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. A C. I. O. "recognition" he was elected vice president of the brotherhood in 1934 and was subsequently elected for another four year term.

# CLERKS WORK PROBLEMS PRESENTED TO P. O. DEPT.

**Seniority Rules, Limitation of Night Work, and Other Improvements in Work Conditions Urged by Post Office Clerks Federation.**

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—The Executive Committee of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks assisted upon officials of the Post Office Department here this week in conference with Deputy First Assistant Postmaster General, the various service problems considered by the recent convention of the Federation.

Among the subjects presented was commendation of the Department for its stand of strict neutrality in industrial conflicts.

Others included seniority, in which connection the subject matter of the Mead-Lucke Seniority bill was presented; the 8-hour work period; assignment of regulars to day and preferential assignment of vacancies to the incumbents; promotion to supervision based on seniority and experience; etc.; for clerks to be detailed to supervisors when serving as such; observing Armistice Day as a legal holiday; limitation of night work, proper lighting systems, and other working positions; payment of reduction of fees for rest bars, against speed-up systems; protection of clerks against injuries of various kinds; handling of mail at military reservations; the 40-hour week for office clerks; establishment of parcel post pick-up stations at the railway mail post, together with numerous other suggestions for improvement and extension of the service, and protection for overages as against shortages.

# CLARKSBURG UNIONS BOYCOTT JAP GOODS

Clarksburg, W. Va. (AFLNB).—With a rousing parade and rally here, under auspices of the Harrison County Central Labor Council, union labor emphasized the advantage of buying goods made in America and urged a continued boycott on cheap-labor imports. A huge sound car, where labor unions have been crushed by dictatorial political rule, including Japan, Italy, Germany and Russia.

Nearly 500 participants in the parade marched through down-town streets, with bands, several of the marchers carrying banners with such legends as "Buy American" and "Boycott Japanese Goods."

A general meeting in the auditorium of the Junior High School, following the parade, was addressed by several labor and city and county officials, including Thomas Cairns, of the State Federation, and President Allison and Secretary Corbin of the Harrison County Central Labor Union.

# Shorter Hours and Wage Protection Urged by Green to Ease Recession

(Continued from Page 1)

sents a gloomy and discouraging picture. It reflects a drastic and undeniably grave blow at the men and women who have battled a decade during the brief period of increased economic activity to liquidate the deficits run up in the years of the last depression from the incomes secured out of their meager earnings. It is an even worse blow to those who have not had the opportunity of obtaining reemployment provided by our private industry in the course of its normal operations.

**Increase of Technological Unemployment**

"Part of the current unemployment is unquestionably due to the increased productivity resulting from technological changes.

"We still hear persistent discussion of bringing industrial activity back to 'normalcy' invariably based on comparisons with the so-called 'good years' of 1929.

"In considering such statements, we must bear in mind two fundamental facts: First, that since 1929 a number of wage earners seeking employment has increased by nearly five million; and, second, that the technological changes and the resulting increases in productivity have made it possible to produce the same volume of goods with a considerably smaller labor force.

"During the eight years since the beginning of the last depression, we have failed to apply any remedy sufficiently effective to halt the rise in unemployment. We have now accumulated an additional force of job-seekers, some five millions in strength, whom industry must absorb.

**Shorter Hours by Legislation Is Urged**

"In dealing with employment in the depression and the possibilities of a return to even 1929 conditions, Professor M. Clark of Columbia University in his article says the following as significant statement:

"Improvements have been made since 1929, enabling a given output to be produced with less labor, and many more probably stand ready for introduction when confidence revives sufficiently and when the condition of the capital market makes it possible to raise the necessary funds. Thus, unless there is a shortening of hours in industry . . . there may be a considerable amount of unemployment even after the current revival has gone as far as it can.'

"Labor maintains that the shortening of hours of work in industry is an essential prerequisite to the reduction of unemployment. Legislative action to make effective this shortening of hours should be Item Number One on the agenda of the Congress."

**Workers Buying Power Must Be Protected**

Turning to the equally important question of "continued expansion of buying power" of the workers "to reestablish prosperity," Mr. Green declared:

"Our best means of providing reemployment is to expand retail trade is through sustaining the purchasing power of the vast mass of the American wage earners.

"Drastic technological changes which have taken place have resulted in greater productivity per man per hour in all of our major industries.

"New strip mills currently installed by steel companies manifest the fact that twenty-five workers in their operation where there was one hundred had been previously required.

"Labor-saving machinery of similar kind has been installed and is being installed in many other manufacturing plants.

"When this is the case, even with the maintenance of the present wage rates, the purchasing power is substantially reduced.

"We cannot permit the workers to make a double contribution to the machine production in the form of both wage cuts and unemployment.

"If the volume of production resulting from the installation of new machinery is to be absorbed by the consuming public, the purchasing power of the mass of the workers must be sustained. Otherwise these technological improvements will lead us to economic disaster instead of economic and industrial progress."

# EDITORIALS

(Continued from Page 1)

It has been persistently and consistently opposed by the American Federation of Labor "because it represents an attempt to shift the burden of taxation from wealth and from those who are able to bear it, to the masses of the people and those who are least able to bear the burden of taxation," and because it is a movement to "soak the poor."

One of the recent conventions of the American Federation of Labor declared:

"In operation the sales tax would be collected from every purchaser of an article. It is reprehensible because it is concealed. The tax upon the article would be the same for the rich as for those who purchase could see and understand the amount of tax they would be called upon to pay."

The action of the District of Columbia Board of Trade and other business groups in favoring the sales tax is easily understood. Although the business interests acquire most of the material benefits resulting from the municipal expenditures made possible by taxation, they, through the sales tax measure, who acquire but a small portion of those benefits, foot the tax bill that pays for them.

But the action of the chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, appointed by the President of the United States to administer the District affairs enacted by Congress, in allying himself with the notably unsavory sales tax proponents is a most incomprehensible anomaly.

The citizens of the District of Columbia have no voice in their local government. If they had a voice, and Commissioner Hazen faced the electorate on the sales tax issue, he would undoubtedly receive the unanimous vote of the people who are numerically represented by the majority of the ballots cast against him by the wage earners and salary earners and others in that large group called the "masses" would be so overwhelming as to retire him from public life with a blow that he would not soon forget.

# Increased Wages and High Prices

An outstanding and regrettable feature of the present business slump, is the nation-wide and persistent charge made by business leaders and their publicity agents, economists, communists, economists and politicians, that the high prices which those who own and control industry and commerce have compelled the people to pay for a large range of commodities have been responsible for the alleged high wages paid to workers and that only because of the useful work in our system of production and distribution.

The utter falsity of the vaporings of these anti-labor propagandists and the truth that the real cause of the business depression is now generally revealed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who testified before the Special Senate Committee to Investigate Unemployment and Relief.

In discussing wages and prices, Mr. Green said:

"Persistent statements have been made that the rapid rises in prices and costs forced on the fall of 1936 and the spring of 1937 were caused by disproportionate increases in wages.

"There is unanswerable evidence in the economic annals of the past two years proving that high prices cannot be charged to high wages.

"We know, for example, that, during this period, after the wage increases had been granted and put into effect, the manufacturers continued to be extremely high. We also know that between September, 1936, and July, 1937, while the increase in costs due to wage raises alone did not average more than 2.5 per cent, the price increases averaged 8.4 per cent.

"Specifically, in textile goods, production costs rose 3.7 per cent due to wage increases in the year ending April, 1937, but the prices went to 25 per cent above the previous year. Similarly, in automobiles, wage increases accounted for only about 3 per cent of the rise ending September, 1937, but price increases on the new models have averaged 9.4 per cent.

"In other words, the widespread claims that increased costs and the consequently increased prices were caused originally by no other factor but wage increases, are neither true nor valid. They are mere propaganda for the obvious purpose of intimidating the workers into the acceptance of drastic wage reductions.

"But this is merely one of the much methods of exerting psychological pressure in order to secure wage cuts for the sake of the immediate gain lose sight of the fact that it is the maintenance of these high wages that provides the basis for the only remedy for the present business slump, and in fact, the only basis, on which recovery can be reestablished."

These succinct and indisputable facts presented by the president of the American Federation of Labor should be a permanent and scalding quietus on the belchings of those members of the Ananias brotherhood who labor under the delusion that their own profiteering and fabulous profits are warranted in higher prices and can be hidden by silly smoke-screen fable that the meager contents of the workers' pay envelopes are in any way responsible for the high prices which have been imposed on consumers by those who, under our economic system, have the substantial power to raise prices without the least consideration for the public welfare.

# Pennsylvania Railroad Employes Sue For Reinstatement

Widespread interest has been aroused by the action of thirty-two supervisors, foremen and gangmen employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad in entering suit in the U. S. District Court of Philadelphia for immediate reinstatement of themselves and one hundred and fifty other employes and restoration of their seniority rights. The suit was brought in the name among three thousand furloughed by the Pennsylvania Railroad in December, 1937.

The furloughs bring up the question of the seniority rights of railroad workers when their employment is changed from one branch of railroad work to other branches.

The length of services of the thirty-two employes who brought the suit ranged from twenty-one to forty-six years. Nevertheless, they were laid off, it is stated, following a ruling made by the National Mediation Board that their seniority ratings dated only from 1933, because, several years prior to 1932, they had been transferred from their original departments to other departments of the Pennsylvania Railroad system. It is the claim of officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad held that the seniority rating date of 1933 justified the furlough despite the many years of service which the employes had rendered the railroad previous to 1933 in other departments.

The Philadelphia suit is said to be the first case of its kind in the United States, and the outcome is expected to have a far-reaching effect on the seniority status of hundreds of thousands of railroad employes.

# Dubinsky Condemns C. I. O. For Blocking Peace in Labor Family

(Continued from Page 1)

had nothing to say as to its administration and policies.

**Attacks Communists**

Directing some of his sharpest darts at the Communists and their press, who have accused the International President Garment Workers Union of misrepresenting the facts of the situation affecting the factional labor conflict, Mr. Dubinsky said:

"We have not forgotten the destructive role of the Communists in the past, but more recently, we have been told, they have adopted a new line. The new line seems to be the old line. The Communists and their official organs have been among those who have ventured to cri

# Unemployment Benefits and Old-Age Insurance Should Extend to Many More Millions of Workers, Green Declares

(Continued from Page 1)

small firms are excluded from the security. Extension of coverage is accomplished in insured industries in those States which now cover only large units is a basic step to make our national unemployment provisions adequate.

"Amendment of the Federal Act which covers employers of 8 or more would reduce amendments of State unemployment compensation laws.

**Unemployment Compensation Funds Are Inadequate**

"Unemployment compensation is the right of the unemployed worker who complies with the requirements of his State law. But we well know that unemployment funds depend upon contributions as prescribed at present could not weather conditions like the extent of the recent world-wide depression.

"Unless augmented by Federal grants, aid for the unemployed would be enhanced by emergency grants as the present basis.

"Unemployment compensation cannot take care of the whole load. Relief must be provided for the indigent poor and the unfortunate. This is primarily a local function but in emergencies the Federal Government has aid.

**Medical Care for Ill and Small Income Groups**

"Another considerable group is always increased during emergency unemployment—those inexperienced by sickness, both chronic and acute. Dr. extension of unemployment benefits to keep them kept free from unemployment illness, family integrity can be protected against the invasion of relief procedures, for a time at least. However we must give serious consideration to making available adequate medical care for employed small income families as well as the unemployed.

**Large Expansion of Social Security Is Necessary**

"In general, then, to make the social security program effective to the greatest degree possible, essentially of use to our society, the program should be expanded in several directions.

"We must broaden the scope of the system by providing a basic national system of unemployment compensation.

"We must strengthen the unemployment compensation program by integrating the administration of unemployment compensation and relief in a unified system where the administration is operating on the theory of individual responsibility, and occupational rehabilitation is continued upon the unemployment office.

**And finally, the present limitation of the duration of benefit payments should be further overcome by a provision for the payment of extended benefits for a limited time beyond the present period of payment of unemployment compensation."

# SHELBYVILLE LAUNDRY WORKERS WIN STRIKE

**Agreement Signed by Home Laundry Provides Wage Increases, Seniority Rights and Names Union as Sole Bargaining Agent.**

Shelbyville, Ind. (AFLNS).—A laundry strike was won here by Laundry Workers' Local Union No. 57, when the management of the Home Laundry signed a union agreement.

The agreement provides a increase of five cents an hour for the workers, along with seniority rights and other favorable working conditions. The union was recognized as the collective bargaining agent for employes and the agreement provides for the preferential shop.

The management, which had contended it was impossible to raise the wages more than 2 or 3 cents an hour and stay in business, tried to settle with an increase of only three cents an hour, which the union turned down, finally getting the raise of five cents demanded. Twenty-five women employes maintained picket lines during the strike, until the final settlement, but there was no disorder.

# McComb Unions Have Over 2,000 Members

**Locals Representing Many Trades Join Hands in Forward March in Thriving Mississippian Community.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

McComb, Miss.—The desire of Southern wage earners to organize into local unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and to set up protective contract policies is well reflected in activities in this progressive community.

The McComb Central Labor Union, organized only about five months ago, already represents over 2,000 A. F. of L. members.

Formed after the first of the year, a new Building Trades Council was organized with every indication that it will render splendid service.

A new local of Hod Carriers and Common Laborers, formed in the first week in January, is making fine progress.

Local Union No. 1416, Retail Clerks Protective Association, recently chartered, is adding new members.

A new local of Carpenters and Joiners is expected shortly as the district carpenters' local here and makes this request. Practically one hundred per cent organized.

# QUARRY AND GRANITE WORKERS WIN 20 PACTS

**Unions in Elberton (Ga.) Enthusiastic Over Signing of Negotiations With Quarry Owners.**

Elberton, Ga. (AFLNS).—Granite Cutters and Quarry Workers' Unions have recently secured 20 union agreements in the Elberton-Atlanta district, indications that all sheds and quarries will soon be under the A. F. of L. banner.

The steady toward effective organization started with a sweeping closed shop victory in late October by granite cutters and quarry workers here, and continued with unabated enthusiasm, until now the entire granite department is also reflected in other industries.

# 5 UNIONS WIN STRIKE ON ALL-AMERICAN CANAL

Yuma, Arizona (AFLNS).—Five American Federation of Labor unions won a strike called on the All-American Canal project, here, when the Morris T. A. Allen Construction Company signed agreements with unions actively with the unions.

The settlement means, of course, higher pay and improved working conditions for those employed on the job, and closes the second front in the strike.

# TUSCALOOSA SHEET METAL WORKERS FORM NEW LOCAL

Tuscaloosa, Ala. (AFLNS).—American Federation of Labor unions in Alabama are continuing sensational gains of the past several months, according to Paul Sellers, organizer, who has been notable among the metal trades and building trades unions.

"In this section we have "played its tune" in this section and the mutual help lingering on in one of discord. The net result is that many members who have been scared away by false hopes rendered by hot air are now lining up with A. F. of L. unions and getting results that mean economic advancement.

# 18 NEW LOCALS JOIN CHARLOTTE CENTRAL BODY

Charlotte, N. C. (AFLNS).—Eighteen new local unions have been affiliated with the Charlotte Central Labor Union, which continued gains in organization forecast for the coming year.

Charlotte, which was selected as the headquarters city for the Carolinas Division of the A. F. of L. Southern Organizing Campaign, with Paul J. Aymes, associate director, is doing which setting a fast pace for other North Carolina cities.

# BUTCHERS SIGN UP ALL VERNON PACKING PLANTS

Vernon, Calif. (AFLNS).—The Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's union has been successful in securing union contracts with all meat packing houses in Vernon, bringing benefit to many workers.

Following a series of conferences held by Joseph Weber, national representatives and packing house officials, the agreement was reached peacefully. Similar agreements are being sought in Long Beach and other cities.

**Office Workers Chartered In Kirkland Lake, Ontario**

Kirkland Lake, Canada (AFLNS).—The Canadian Trades and Labor Congress has issued a new charter to office workers and store employees here, following a successful organization drive.

# PROGRESS MADE BY COLUMBUS UNIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

union, and pay boosts from $750 to $1,650. Other gains have been secured, it was pointed out. A concerted organizing drive is now under way among all state, county and municipal employees.

**National Guard Appropriation Opposed**

Misuse of the Ohio National Guard during labor disputes against Wood organized labor has vigorously protested in the past, and a hostility arising in the House of Representatives here recently. An item of $90,000 for the militia, included in the supplementary appropriation bill, nearly lost. While it survived, 69 to 42, labor forces effectively served notice that a reform in state militia policies and tactics in labor disputes is expected. W. H. Whetro, chairman of the House Labor Committee, who is the general organizer for the A. F. of L., explained: "The American Federation of Labor and the Ohio State Federation of Labor are not opposing the use of the militia when necessity demands it. But those two organizations are opposed to the misuse of the National Guard, as has been the case recently, when organized workers complained or call a strike, after negotiations with their employers collapse."

**48-Hour Week Work for Women Enforced**

Ohio's new 48-hour week work law for women is being watched closely by organized labor as the first enforcement of such a law for what appears to be determined enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. The first arrest of an employer for violation of the law occurred in Lorain, a guilty plea resulting. The first arrest in Columbus brought a $25 suspended fine on promise of future compliance.

**Gangster Shoots Taxi Striker**

A rather sensational five-day strike of taxi drivers was won by Taxi Drivers' Local Union No. 260 here recently, which was marked by serious injury to Ewin McCarthy, 24-year-old union taxi cab driver, by a gun-wielding strike-breaker employed by a local building supply firm. McCarthy was shot when he went to the home of Henry Green in an endeavor to convince the strike-breaker that he was wrong in taking the job of a man on strike. Union officials made several appeals to police, but, it appears, generally disregarded, that strike-breakers employed by the supply firm, whose union truck drivers were on strike, were armed with revolvers which they used and would use.

**Good Wage Increase Won**

The 5-day taxi cab strike brought victory in the form of a two per cent wage increase and a monthly "no accident" bonus of $4 or $5 for drivers not having an accident due to their negligence. Drivers for 20 cab units called against only one major company, insurance companies cancelled coverage, resulting in the withdrawal from service of 60 taxi cabs.

# PORTLAND UNIONS LAND BENEFITS FOR WORKERS

**Most Grocery Stores Have Signed Agreements; Shoe Workers Sign Up Nine More Plants; C. I. O. Lumber Workers Lose Extra Pay For Overtime.**

Portland, Oregon (AFLNS).—American Federation of Labor unions here are going forward to increasingly important achievements, according to reports submitted to the Central Labor Council.

The astonishing announcement is made that 95 per cent of all grocery stores in Portland now have signed union agreements, an unusual feat for any group of service workers in a large city.

Boot and Shoe Workers' Local Union No. 986 is among other locals reporting encouraging progress, the agreement with local repair shops having been reported at one meeting, even though it was necessary for the union to call a strike to meet the opposition of some shops.

The futility of workers expecting any real progress under C. I. O. method of organization is emphasized by the report that Portland annexation of workers under the C.I.O. have taken away from the workers the former privileges of A. F. of L. Lumber and Sawmill Workers that plenty of A. F. of L. locked lumber is available for those who demand it.

# ATLANTA UPHOLSTERERS LAND INCREASED WAGES

**Local Has 300 members; International Union's Strength Is Increasing in Southern Areas.**

*By A. F. of L. News Service.*

Atlanta, Ga.—The desire of upholsterers to organize under the banner of the American Federation of Labor has resulted in many calls for organization assistance throughout many sections of the South, according to W. H. Harris, director of organization in the South for the Upholsterers' International, who recently spent two weeks here, before responding to several calls in the Carolinas.

Typical of progress being made, Upholsterers' Local Union No. 62, of Atlanta, has passed the 300 mark in membership and is still growing. One of the recent achievements of the local union was the gaining of restoration of a 44 per cent wage reduction which a large employer put into effect last year.

In another instance, a worker who had been discharged was put back to work through efforts of the union a short time ago. Organization of many of the membership is bringing a constantly increasing number of workers into the union and, of course, constantly increasing prestige and collective bargaining power for the union.

# WINDOWS BROKEN IN LABOR DISPUTE GET INTO COURT

Kansas City, Mo. (AFLNS).—When windows are broken during labor troubles, it will be necessary to await settlement of the trouble before the glass is replaced by A. F. of L. union men, the District Court here has held.

Testimony of Roy W. Klein, manager of the Kroger Glass Company, was to the effect that his employes, members of an American Federation of Labor union, threatened to strike if the company undertook replacement of broken glass windows before the labor dispute involved was settled.

# 32,000 LOS ANGELES TEAMSTERS UNIONIZED

**Wage Increase Agreement Planned With 850 Wholesale Produce Establishments; Body Declares C.I.O. Is Communistic.**

Los Angeles, Calif. (AFLNS).—Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Local Union No. 626 of Los Angeles opened negotiations with the representatives of 850 wholesale produce establishments January 21, to effect an increase in wages. The concerns are members of the Associated Produce Dealers and Brokers.

A union agreement was secured last August, giving the loaders on "Produce Row" a minimum of $25 a week and $1 an hour minimum for overtime. At that agreement followed an "open shop" agreement of last April, before complete organization was effected.

A definite wage scale for drivers will be one of the issues in the present conferring negotiations, it is stated.

The drive for unionization against the May Company recently, brought attacks in local daily newspapers, backed by the Southern California Employers, an uncompromising open shop organization, of big industrial interests.

David Beck, of Seattle, who was personally attached in connection with the Los Angeles teamsters' drive, declared statements that the Teamsters' Union is a "Communistic body" are ridiculous, or that it is "trying to force like conditions on the employers."

"The Teamsters' Union has 15,000 more men organized in Los Angeles than in San Francisco," said Mr. Beck. Mr. Beck declared. He also criticised the C.I.O., its communistic and declared in his statement that industry "must choose between responsible and irresponsible labor."

# North Dakota Finds Jobs For Thousands

(Continued from Page 1)

persons a month call at employment offices in the State.

**Thirteen Strikes Won**

During 1937, there were 15 strikes in North Dakota, which affected a total of 1,690 idle man-days. The workers won gains in 13 of the strikes, 1 resulted in a compromise and 1 failed. The average shoot 16 cents an hour, along with all-important shorter workweek.

**Ten-Hour Day for Truck Drivers**

Interest is manifest in the North Dakota law in the form of a two per cent wage increase and a monthly "no accident" bonus of $4 or $5 for drivers not having an accident due to their negligence. Drivers for 20 cab units called against only one major company, insurance companies cancelled coverage, resulting in the withdrawal from service of 60 taxi cabs.

Truck Drivers, including Dairy Drivers, Bakery Drivers, Milk Drivers, Salesmen and Helpers of Bakery Drivers, Milk Drivers, Salesmen and Helpers of Bakery Drivers, Milk Drivers, Salesmen and Helpers of